

DEAV2001/0073 US NP

PATENT

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1, 3 to 9, 11 to 16, 19 to 20, and 23 will be pending in this patent application. Claims 10 and 18 have been canceled. Claim 23 has been amended.

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Discussion of the Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 10, 18, and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the stated rejections, Applicants submit that, in view of the foregoing amendments, this rejection is now moot.

Miscellaneous

Applicants would like to express their appreciation to the Examiner for the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1, 3 to 16, 18 to 20, and 23. Applicants believe that they have made a valuable contribution to the art and the Examiner's recognition of the same is appreciated.

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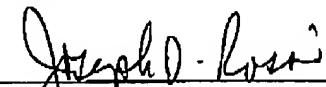
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Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Action mailed on November 23, 2004, and the allowance of all claims is respectfully requested. If there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (908) 231-3410.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required and any additional fees that may be needed to Deposit Account No. 18-1982 in the name of Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



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